What is claimed is:

1. A method of enabling a user of a communications network to participate in a presence-based network, comprising:

generating a signal signifying a status of a communications network device of said user;

transferring said signal to a web server;

translating said signal to presence-based information for said device;

forwarding said presence-based information to presence user agents associated with participants of said presence-based network;

obtaining, at one of said presence user agents associated with said user, presence-based information for selected participants of said presence-based network;

propagating said presence-based information for said selected participants to a media server of said communications network; and

communicating said presence-based information for said selected participants to said user in a communications network compatible format.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein communicating said presence-based information for said selected participants comprises:

initiating a call from said media server to said user when said presence-based information for at least one of said selected participants indicates a status change in a device of said at least one participant; and

presenting, in said communications network compatible format, said presence-based

information for said at least one selected participant to said user when said user accepts said call.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said communications network is a phone network.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein communicating said presence-based information for said

selected participants comprises presenting, in said communications network compatible format, a

listing of said selected participants and said corresponding presence-based information for said

selected participants when said user selects an option to receive said presence-based information.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said communications network is a phone network.

6. The method of claim 5, comprising transmitting messages between said user and said selected

participants.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein transmitting messages from one of said selected participants

to said user comprises:

    forwarding said message to said media server;

    translating said message to a communications network compatible message;

    initiating a call to said user;

    presenting said communications network compatible message to said user when said user

accepts said call; and

    queuing said communications network compatible message when said user does not

accept said call.

8 The method of claim 7, comprising:

presenting a listing of said selected participants to said user when said user selects an option to receive queued messages, said listing including a queued message indication for said selected participants having messages not delivered to said user; and

presenting selected queued messages to said user.

9. The method of claim 7, comprising presenting said queued messages sequentially to said user when said user selects an option to receive queued messages.

10. The method of claim 6, wherein transmitting messages from said user to said selected participants comprises:

communicating a communications network compatible message from said user to said media server;

translating said communications network compatible message to a web-based request referencing said communications network compatible message;

creating a presence-based network message from said web-based request; and

sending said presence-based network message to presence user agents associated with said selected participants.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said communications network compatible message is an audio message and said presence-based network message identifies a web site for playing said audio message.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein communicating said presence-based information for said selected participants to said user in said communications network compatible format comprises applying a text-to-speech translation to said presence-based information.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein said communications network is a phone network.

14. The method of claim 13, comprising:

accepting a login sequence from said user to connect said user to said presence-based network; and

generating a signal signifying an on-line status for said user's device.

15. The method of claim 14, comprising:

generating a signal signifying a busy status for said user's device when said user initiates at least one action chosen from a number of actions including getting status, receiving messages, sending messages, making a call on said communications network and receiving a call on said communications network;

generating a signal signifying an off-line status for said user's device when said user performs a logout; and

generating, when a predetermined amount of time elapses after said user performs a hang-up, a signal signifying a status for said user's device chosen by said user from a listing including an away status and an off-line status.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein generating a signal comprises:

sending a trigger from a service switching point of said communications network to a service control point of said communications network, said trigger based on a user action with respect to said user's device; and

generating at least one of a hypertext transfer protocol request and a transmission capabilities application part message.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein propagating said presence-based information to said presence user agents comprises:

propagating said presence-based information to said presence user agent associated with said user;

modifying a presence status of said presence user agent associated with said user;

communicating said modified presence status to a presence server; and

propagating said modified status from said presence server to said presence user agents associated with participants of said presence-based network.

18. A system for providing communications network participation in a presence-based network, comprising:

a service control point receiving status triggers for participant devices connected to said communications network;

a web server receiving trigger signals from said service control point, said web server translating said trigger signals to presence-based information for respective participant devices

connected to said communications network;

presence user agents, each presence user agent associated with a participant in said presence-based network, each presence user agent receiving said presence-based information for a respective participant device and each presence user agent modifying its presence status to correspond with said received presence-based information;

a presence server receiving notifications of modified presence statuses for said respective participant devices and propagating said notifications to presence user agents of buddy list participants for said respective participant devices so as to communicate said notifications to said buddy lists participants; and

a media server receiving said notifications for buddy list participants having participant devices connected to said communications network and communicating said notifications through said participant devices connected to said communications network.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein said media server comprises:

a speech recognition module; and

a text to speech module, said speech recognition module and text to speech module facilitating communication of instant messages between buddy list participants.

20. The system of claim 19, comprising a persisted message database for storing instant messages when communication of said instant messages is not completed.

21. The system of claim 18, comprising a media server user agent to facilitate communications between said presence server and said media server.

22. The system of claim 18, comprising a notification engine receiving notifications and alerts from sources outside said presence-based network and propagating said notifications and alerts through said presence-based network via communication with said web server.

23. The system of claim 22, comprising an alerting service user agent to facilitate communication between said notification engine and said presence user agents.

24. The system of claim 18 comprising:

at least one database containing participant information; and

an application server to facilitate communication between said web server and said at least one database.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein said application server comprises a trigger processor to facilitate communication between said service control point and said web server when said trigger signal is a transmission control protocol/internet protocol transmission capabilities application part message.

26. The system of claim 18, wherein said media server comprises:

a speech recognition module;

a text to speech module, said speech recognition module and text to speech module facilitating communication of instant messages between buddy list participants; and

a media server user agent to facilitate communications between said presence server and said media server.

27. The system of claim 26, comprising a persisted message database for storing instant messages when communication of said instant messages is not completed.

28. The system of claim 26, comprising a notification engine receiving notifications and alerts from sources outside said presence-based network and propagating said notifications and alerts through said presence-based network via communication with said web server.

29. The system of claim 28, comprising an alerting service user agent to facilitate communication between said notification engine and said presence user agents.

30. The system of claim 28 comprising:

at least one database containing participant information; and

an application server to facilitate communication between said web server and said at least one database.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein said application server comprises a trigger processor to facilitate communication between said service control point and said web server when said status signal is a transmission control protocol/internet protocol transmission capabilities application part message.

32. The system of claim 31, comprising an alerting service user agent to facilitate communication between said notification engine and said presence user agents.

33. The method of claim 18, wherein said communications network is a phone network.

34. A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for enabling a user of a

communications network to participate in a presence-based network, said computer program including instructions for causing a processor to:

generate a signal signifying a status of a communications network device of said user;

transfer said signal to a web server;

translate said signal to presence-based information for said device;

propagate said presence-based information to presence user agents associated with participants of said presence-based network;

obtain, at one of said presence user agents associated with said user, presence-based information for selected participants of said presence-based network;

forward said presence-based information for said selected participants to a media server of said communications network; and

communicate said presence-based information for said selected participants to said user in a communications network compatible format.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein said communications network is a phone network.

36. The computer program of claim 35, wherein said instructions for causing a processor to communicate said presence-based information for said selected participants include instructions for causing a processor to present, in said communications network compatible format, a listing of said selected participants and said corresponding presence-based information for said selected participants when said user selects an option to receive said presence-based information.

37. The computer program of claim 36, wherein said instructions for causing a processor to communicate said presence-based information for said selected participants include instructions for causing a processor to initiate a call from said media server to said user and await answering said call by said user to present said listing.

38. The computer program of claim 34, comprising instructions for causing a processor to transmit messages from one of said selected participants to said user by:

forwarding said message to said media server;

translating said message to a communications network compatible message;

initiating a call to said user;

presenting said communications network compatible message to said user when said user accepts said call; and

queuing said communications network compatible message when said user does not accept said call.

39. The computer program of claim 38, wherein said instructions for causing a processor to communicate said presence-based information for said selected participants include instructions for causing a processor to:

present a listing of said selected participants to said user when said user selects an option to receive queued messages, said listing including a queued message indication for said selected participants having messages not delivered to said user; and

present selected queued messages to said user.

40. The computer program of claim 38, comprising instructions for causing a processor to present said queued messages sequentially to said user when said user selects an option to receive queued messages.

41. The computer program of claim 38, wherein said instructions for causing a processor to transmit messages include instructions for causing a processor to:

communicate a communications network compatible message from said user to said media server;

translate said communications network compatible message to a web-based request referencing said communications network compatible message;

create a presence-based network message from said web-based request; and

send said presence-based network message to presence user agents associated with said selected participants.

42. The computer program of claim 41, wherein said instructions for causing a processor to create a presence-based network message include instructions for causing a processor to identify a web site for playing said communications network compatible message, wherein said communications network compatible message is an audio message.

43. The computer program of claim 34, wherein said instructions include instructions for causing a processor to apply a text-to-speech translation to said presence-based information.

44. The computer program of claim 34, wherein said instructions include instructions for

causing a processor to:

provide to said user a choice of actions including getting status, receiving messages,

sending messages, making a call on said communications network and receiving a call on said

communications network;

generate a signal signifying a busy status for said user's device when said user initiates at

least one action of said choice of actions;

generate a signal signifying an off-line status for said user's device when said user

performs a logout from said computer program; and

generate, when a predetermined amount of time elapses after said user performs a hang-

up, a signal signifying a status for said user's device chosen by said user from a listing including

an away status and an off-line status.

45. The computer program of claim 34, wherein said instructions to generate a signal include

instructions for causing a processor to:

send a trigger from a service switching point of said communications network to a service

control point of said communications network, said trigger based on a user action with respect to

said user's device; and

generate at least one of a hypertext transfer protocol request and a transmission

capabilities application part message.

46. The computer program of claim 45, wherein said instructions for controlling a computer to

propagate said presence-based information to said presence user agents include instructions for

controlling a computer to:

propagate said presence-based information to said presence user agent associated with

said user;

modify a presence status of said presence user agent associated with said user;

communicate said modified presence status to a presence server; and

propagate said modified status from said presence server to said presence user agents

associated with participants of said presence-based network.